Remarks

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 36, 50 and 51 are under consideration.

Claim 50 is amended as suggested by the Examiner so as to obviate the rejection thereof under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on Tolstrup et al. Claims 36 and 51 are dependent on claim 50 and are deemed o be allowable as well.

The rejection of claims 36 and 50 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Schimmel et al. is believed to be overcome by the Rule 131 Declaration by Dr. Keisuke Wakasugi submitted herewith. The record in this case now includes Rule 131 Declarations by Dr. Schimmel as well as Dr. Wakasugi.

The present amendment to the claims, the Rule 131 Declaration by Dr. Wakasugi, and the accompanying discussion are believed to dispose of all issues in this case and to place this application in condition for allowance.

Early passing of this application to issue is solicited

Respectfully submitted,

December 2, 2004

Talivaldis Cepuritis (Reg. No. 20,818)

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